

C O U N C I L C O M M U N I C A T I O N

TO: THE CITY COUNCIL
FROM: THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

COUNCIL MEETING DATE NO.
January 6, 1988

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW/ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED 230-KV ELECTRIC INTERCONNECTION BETWEEN THE CITY OF LODI AND THE WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION (WESTERN)

PREPARED BY: City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council hear the initial presentation of the draft E.I.R./Environmental Assessment on the proposed interconnection project involving the City of Lodi and the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) and set the matter for public hearing at the regular meeting of Wednesday, February 17, 1988.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: While advertised as a public hearing, this is actually more appropriately an "Administrative Hearing" scheduled for the purpose of providing a forum for the initial public presentation of the draft E.I.R. document associated with the proposed 230-KV interconnections project. Representatives of Power Engineers Incorporated, the firm the City has retained to engineer this project, will be in attendance. They will present the document and answer questions, and they will be equipped with visual aids and handouts.

This should be viewed as an information item, with the actual decision coming at some time after the recommended public hearing to be held February 17.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas A. Peterson
City Manager

TAP: br

TXTA.07A COUNC302

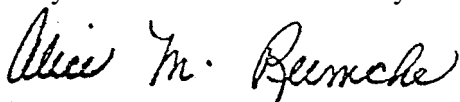
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TO RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
CONCERNING A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW/ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED 230-KV ELECTRIC INTERCONNECTION
BETWEEN THE CITY OF LODI AND THE WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION (WESTERN)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, January 6, 1988 at the hour of 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matters may be heard, the Lodi City Council will conduct a public hearing to receive comments from the public concerning a draft Environmental Impact Review/Environmental Assessment of the proposed 230-KV electric interconnection between the City of Lodi and the Western Area Power Administration (WESTERN). This interconnection **would** provide a method to provide for the growing electrical demands of the community and contribute to stabilization of rates. The proposed project would consist of an interconnection with a WESTERN line west of Lodi between Thornton Road and 1-5; approximately five miles of double circuit **230-kv** transmission line on single steel poles spaced approximately 1,200 feet apart; and a new substation.

Information regarding this item may be obtained in the office of the Community Development Director at 221 West Pine Street, Lodi, California. All interested persons are invited to present their views and comments on this matter. Written statements may be filed with the City Clerk at any time prior to the hearing scheduled herein and oral statements may be made at said hearing.

If you challenge the subject matter in court you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk, 221 West Pine Street, Lodi, California, at or prior to, the Public Hearing.

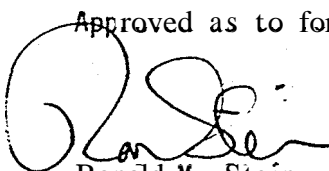
By Order Of the Lodi City Council :



Alice M. Reimche
City Clerk

Dated: December 2, 1987

Approved as to form:



Ronald M. Stein
City Attorney

CITY OF LODI
DIRECT INTERCONNECTION PROJECT
GENERAL SUMMARY

Introduction

The City of Lodi, through its membership in the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), is proposing to construct an electrical transmission line direct interconnection with Western Area Power Administration's (WESTERN) existing transmission line system. The proposal, if approved and implemented, would consist of a double circuit 230kV, single steel pole line and a 230kV-60kV substation. The Project will be financed entirely by the City of Lodi. Because of indirect federal participation in the project via WESTERN, a joint Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Report is being prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); (40 CFR Part 1500, Sec. 102(2), and CA PRC Sec. 21000). That document will be available in draft form to the public about mid-January. If the City decides to proceed with the project after receiving environmental clearance, construction of project facilities could begin in December 1988.

Purpose and Need

Construction of the direct Interconnection Project with WESTERN would allow the City to meet its long range electric service cost, capacity and reliability goals by:

1. Minimizing the long-term **cost** of service to the City's electric customers, through rate stabilization, by reducing transmission service charges.
2. Enabling the City to **purchase** power on a direct basis from the lowest cost available source.

Providing **additional** firm, reliable transmission **capacity** to serve new consumers, particularly for anticipated industrial growth.

Alternatives

The assessment of the proposed action **considers** four alternative actions:

- A. No Action
- B. Energy Conservation
- C. Alternative Technologies
- D. The Proposed Action with Routing and Siting Alternatives

No Action

By maintaining the status quo, the City **would** continue with its connection to the PG&E system.

No **action** would preclude the City from providing the project's benefits *to* the City's rate payers, and is therefore not considered a viable alternative action for **meeting** the stated need.

Energy Conservation

The City Electric Utility Department has instituted a variety of energy conservation programs. However, the City's purpose as stated is not to reduce energy consumption through the proposed action, but to provide electric service for a growing **population**. Because energy conservation can help reduce energy demand but not provide a transfer path for electric power, conservation cannot be considered **as** an alternative action for meeting the project purpose.

Alternative Technologies

Available technologies for meeting **increased** demand would include the installation of City-owned thermal generation within, or immediately adjacent to the city. The high capital investment and environmental quality costs, **as well** as the inherent increase in cost to rate payers, combine to preclude this option

from consideration.

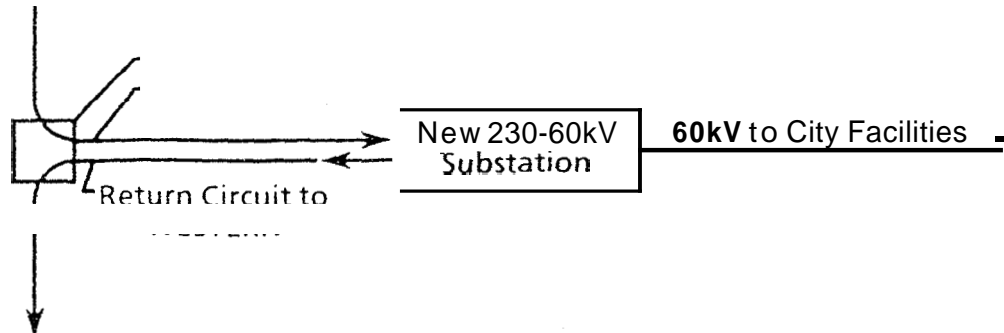
An additional alternate technology to be considered is that of underground construction. The basic cost of undergrounding a 230kV line would be at least four to ten times the cost of building an overhead line. Underground lines remain vulnerable to leaks, dig-ins, washouts, seismic events and cooling-system failures. These complications can result in service outages lasting days or weeks, rather than the hours usually required to locate and correct overhead failures. Outages of long duration would be unacceptable for the City.

Considering the technical complications, economic considerations and environmental impacts, and accessibility requirements, an underground transmission system--either in part or in total--is not a viable alternative for the proposed action.

The Proposed Action with Routing and Siting Alternatives

Based upon preliminary evaluations, it appears the City's interests would best be served by constructing and operating a double circuit 230kV overhead transmission line. The line could originate at a point of interconnection with a WESTERN line located approximately five miles west of Lodi. Alternative points of interconnection exist adjacent to Thornton Road between Highway 12 and Turner Road. From the point of interconnection the line would extend easterly approximately five miles to a new substation.

If this plan were ultimately selected, the double circuit transmission line would effectively form an electrical loop from WESTERN through City facilities and back to WESTERN. (See sketch on next page)



Two alternative points of WESTERN interconnection were identified, those being:

IC-1 is located just east of Thornton Road on the south side of Turner Road. IC-2 is approximately three-quarters of a mile north of Highway 12 between I-5 and Thornton Road.

New substation facilities would be required to provide step-down transformation of the 230kV to 60kV. The City currently accepts power delivery at 60kV; therefore, modifications to existing substation facilities would be minor, or not be required.

Three alternative substation sites, each requiring approximately four acres, were considered: SS-1, a site at the southwest corner of Highway 12 and Lower Sacramento Road, SS-2, on the southeast corner of this intersection; and SS-3, a site adjacent to the west side of the Henning Substation. All three sites are presently outside the Lodi City Limits and are zoned GA-40. The proposed substation represents a permitted use within this zoning designation as described in the Planning Code of San Joaquin County.

Transmission line routing alternatives were considered based upon their ability to satisfy the project **purpose** and need, and the City's routing criteria as follows:

- Avoid excessive impacts upon agricultural lands.
- Utilize existing access.
- Minimize routing through areas of general residential and commercial development.
- Avoid areas representing engineering hazards or requiring costly design measures.
- Minimize the line length
- Avoid areas of critical environmental concern.

Three primary routing alternatives have so far been identified. These routes are Turner Road Alternative, Sargent Road Alternative, and Highway 12 (Kettleman Lane) Alternative. In addition to the major alternative routes, several cross link routes are being examined that would serve as alternative north-south running segments to connect the east-west running segments.

Alternative cross links under examination are as follows: Western Pacific Railroad alignment; Davis Road; and Lower Sacramento Road.

An additional alternative is under consideration that would provide added reliability to the WESTERN system in the event the City's proposed 230kV line experienced an outage. Two separate scenarios are possible for addressing this alternative:

- Using any combination of route alternatives, construct a single circuit loop, separating the incoming source circuit from the return circuit on two individual sets of poles.
- Build a 230-60kV substation at the point of interconnection, and construct three 60kV lines to the City's existing 60kV transmission system.

A typical transmission line structure consists of a single tubular steel pole approximately 100 feet in height above ground line and about four feet in diameter at the base. Davit arms, approximately twelve feet long on each side of the pole would support the conductors. Typical spacing between structures would be 900 to 1,200 feet.

A fifty foot wide right of way on private land would be required to accommodate the transmission line with an additional twenty foot overhang easement required from CALTRANS. The total amount of private land required for the preferred route right of way would be approximately 33 acres. The right of way would be acquired by the City as an easement. Negotiations with landowners for easement rights would be conducted according to the California Uniform Relocation and Property Acquisition Act. Landowners would be compensated for the easement on a basis of fair market land value. While many uses are allowed within transmission line easements, certain restrictions are imposed. These would primarily concern the erection of structures within the easement, or the conduct of activities that might pose a safety hazard or impede the operation and maintenance of the line.

The City of Lodi is committed in so far as possible to avoiding structure placement in front of any residential or commercial dwelling. The desires of the local landowners and residents will be considered when making those placement decisions.



RECEIVED

DEC 21 1987

Utility Dept.

December 2, 1987

City of Lodi
227 West Pine Street
Lodi, CA 95241-1910

Parcel No.: 053-140-53

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the City of Lodi Electric Utility Department, we wish to inform you of the City's proposal to construct a new power transmission line. The City presently purchases power from a major area utility and wheels power over that utility's transmission lines to City facilities. In their planning to provide for the growing electrical demands of the community, and to stabilize rates, the City has determined it to be in the best interest of its electric consumers to provide alternative sources of power. One such source would interconnect City facilities with those of the Western Area Power Administration, (WESTERN) an agency of the U.S. Department of Energy. The proposed project would consist of an interconnection with a WESTERN line west of Lodi between Thornton Road and I-5; approximately five miles of double circuit 230kV transmission line on single steel poles spaced approximately 1200 feet apart; and a new substation.

POWER Engineers, Inc. (POWER) has been contracted by the City to conduct environmental studies, project engineering and design, and right of way assessment. We are currently developing an environmental report which will assess the project's impacts relative to existing and planned land uses, natural resources, economic considerations, and design requirements. Various routing and siting alternatives are being considered to properly evaluate the action of least impact while fulfilling the City's need for additional electrical capacity. At this time our preferred alternative would extend from the point of interconnection along the east side of Thornton Road to Kettleman Lane. From the Kettleman Lane/Thornton Road intersection, the route would traverse the north side of Kettleman Lane to just east of Ray Road, at which point it would cross to the south side of Kettleman Lane. Continuing east, the route **would** terminate at a new substation to be constructed on either the southeast or southwest corner of Lower Sacramento Road and Kettleman Lane. From that substation a new 60kV line would extend along the north side of Kettleman Lane to the City's Henning Substation, a distance of approximately eight-tenths of a mile. The proposed **transmission line**, approximately five miles in length, would require a one hundred **foot wide right of way**. The substation would require approximately a five acre site.

The San Joaquin County records indicate that you own property which may be affected by the preferred alternative. **So** that you have an opportunity to learn more about the proposed project, and to provide us with your comments, we encourage you to attend a public hearing on Wednesday, January 6, 1988. The hearing will be held in the Lodi City Council Chambers, Lodi City Hall, 221 West Pine Street at 7:30 p.m.

December 2, 1987
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Again, because we consider the comments received by project area landowners to be invaluable to the decision-making process, **we** encourage you to either personally attend the public hearing, or send a written statement to be read into the hearing record. Written statements should be sent to: POWER Engineers, Inc. P.O. Box 1066, Hailey, ID 83333, Attention: Frank Rowland.

Should you have questions **prior** to the public hearing, please contact the undersigned collect at (208)788-3456.

Sincerely,

POWER Engineers, Incorporated


Frank Rowland
Land Services Manager

FR:ss
cc: File

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

B FROM: City Manager

DATE: December 30, 1987

SUBJ: Draft E.I.R. and Environniental Assessment for
Direct Interconnection Project

Attached for the City Council's information and review is a copy of the draft E.I.R. document on the proposed 230-KV interconnection project. Staff is still in the process of conducting its administrative review of this report. To minimize confusion and the possibility of premature conclusions, this document should not be made public until it is presented at Wednesday night's City Council meeting. Representatives of Power Engineers Incorporated, the firm the City has hire to do the engineering on this project, will be in attendance Wednesday night to present this report. They will have visual aids and handouts for the Council and the public.

Wednesday night's meeting will serve as the initial public presentation of this and the terminology should be that of "Administrative Hearing" rather than "Public Hearing." Property owners who might be affected by this project have been notified by mail of this meeting and invited to attend. At the conclusion of this presentation, it is recommended that Council set this matter for public hearing at the regular meeting of February 17, 1988. While the public will, of course, be welcome to comment, this should not be considered a public hearing in its purest form in that the City Council will not be hearing testimony from opposing sides and then rendering a decision. The February 17 public hearing date will provide the public with a six-week review period.

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